

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

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2. (amended) A recombinant plasmid comprising at least one *Thermus sp.* replication origin, wherein said replication origin [includes] is contained within the isolated DNA sequence of claim 1.

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (amended) The recombinant plasmid of claim 2, further comprising at least one promoter sequence selected from the [group consisting of the] DNA sequence of [SEQ ID NO:6] SEQ ID NO:5, -10 TATTTT, -35, TTGCCA, 17 bp spacing; or -10 TAGGGT, -35, TTGCCC, 18 bp spacing [residues 27-32 of SEQ ID NO:6, residues 50-55 of SEQ ID NO:6, residues 86-90 of SEQ ID NO:6, and residues 109-114 of SEQ ID NO:6].

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (amended) An isolated DNA encoding a *Thermus sp.* [Promoter] promoter, wherein said isolated DNA is selected from the [group consisting of the] DNA sequence of [SEQ ID NO:6] SEQ ID NO:5, -10 TATTTT, -35, TTGCCA, 17 bp spacing; or -10 TAGGGT, -35, TTGCCC, 18 bp spacing [residues 27-32 of SEQ ID NO:6, residues 50-55 of SEQ ID NO:6, residues 86-90 of SEQ ID NO:6, and residues 109-114 of SEQ ID NO:6].

Please cancel claim 11 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3 and 6 have been amended to more particularly define the present invention. Claim 11 has been cancelled without prejudice as